

**City of Belmont
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 1, 2015
One Twin Pines Lane**

CONVENED AT 7:00 PM

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Block, Vargas, Hunter, Sullivan, Bortoli, Mittelstadt, Sebt
and Michaels

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Foehr

STAFF PRESENT: Parks & Recreation Director Gervais and Administrative Assistant Saggau

ANNOUNCEMENTS/AGENDA AMENDMENTS

Youth Commissioner Hunter encouraged Commissioners to participate in National Night Out on Tuesday, August 4, 2015.

Commissioner Mittelstadt noted free concerts are held at Twin Pines Park at 1:00 on Sundays with the History Room and Book Nook open at the same time.

Commissioner Michaels stated he and Commissioners Mittelstadt and Bortoli attended the Commissioners Workshop held at Twin Pines Senior & Community Center and met Parks & Recreation Commissioners from other cities.

Commissioner Sullivan said he will work on a schedule to resume trail work. Commissioner Block added the Lake Loop trail appears to be well used by the community. Parks & Recreation Director Gervais noted Eagle Scout Adam Cobb installed two new benches at Water Dog Lake.

CONSENT CALENDAR

May 6, 2015 Minutes

ACTION: On a motion by Commissioner Mittelstadt, seconded by Commissioner Vargas, the minutes of the regular meeting of May 6, 2015 were unanimously approved.

June 2, 2015 Minutes

ACTION: On a motion by Commissioner Vargas, seconded by Commissioner Michaels the minutes of the special joint meeting were approved. Vote: 6 in favor, Commissioners Hunter and Sullivan abstained.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Continued Discussion on the General Plan Update

Parks & Recreation Director Gervais reviewed the items discussed at the last Commission meeting. The topics included revisions needed on the preferred plan and zoning maps, ways to increase mobility, and integrating pocket parks in development projects. He noted a joint City

Council/Planning Commission is scheduled for July 21 to discuss the General Plan Update and provided options for the Parks & Recreation Commission to give their input.

The Commission discussed items that they would like to be addressed in the General Plan which included the following:

- Barrett Community Center
- Athletic Fields
- Pocket Parks
- Parks Objective measure
- Mobility – bike and walking paths, street/sidewalk improvements
- Open Space – trail connections, interpretive programs, management
- Downtown vision with ties to Twin Pines Park and pocket parks
- Belmont Creek enhancement
- Dog Parks
- Zoning Questions - Twin Pines Park, Hidden Canyon Park and potential partnerships at Barrett Community Center

Commissioner Michaels and Youth Commissioner Hunter volunteered to attend the Joint City Council/Planning Commission to present the Commission's position. Other Commissioners may also attend the meeting.

The Parks & Recreation Commission will include Athletic Fields, San Juan Canyon Open Space and linking trail connections on future agendas.

Update on Davey Glen Park

Parks & Recreation Director Gervais reviewed the progress on the Davey Glen Park project. Samples of the playground surface were presented so the Commission could provide input on the color choice. Changes made during the design process included moving the ADA parking stall a little further west and changing the amphitheater seats to a retaining wall which would increase the flat area by the play structure. The Public Works Department is looking at the potential of installing pipes under the park to store storm water.

Parks & Recreation Director Gervais responded to questions from the Commission.

Following discussion the Commission expressed a preference for the playground surface to be the green/black color for the main surface with the tan/black color for the border areas.

Create an Ad Hoc Committee to Address Youth Engagement

Parks & Recreation Director Gervais explained a demographic study has shown there will be a significant increase in the teen and pre-teen population in Belmont. The City Council has discussed this item and created a working group to look into the creation of a youth commission. The Parks & Recreation Department recommends the Commission create an Ad-Hoc Committee to explore recreational opportunities for this age group and make recommendations to enhance youth services.

The Commission expressed support for setting up an Ad-Hoc Committee.

Parks & Recreation Director Gervais noted Commissioner Foehr expressed interest in serving of the Ad Hoc-Committee. Youth Commissioners Hunter and Sebt and Commissioner Vargas also expressed interest in serving on this committee.

ACTION: Commission Sullivan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mittelstadt, that we set up an Ad-Hoc Committee with four members that we select this evening and let them decide on the schedule that they will use to complete the task. Vote: 8-0 in favor.

Youth Commissioners Hunter and Sebt and Commissioners Vargas and Foehr were selected to serve on the Youth Engagement Ad-Hoc Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS / UPDATES

Department Reports

Parks & Recreation Director Gervais reported the following:

- The Lake Loop Alignment trail is near completion and a plaque will be installed recognizing the volunteers
- The Belmont/Redwood Shores School District is considering installing synthetic turf on the field at Ralston Middle School.
- A Commission Workshop was held in Twin Pines Senior/Community Center on June 27.
- The Notre Dame de Namur University freshmen class will provide community service and clean up Twin Pines Park on August 31st.
- Summer Soccer Camp programs have been reduced to limit the impact on the fields.
- Recreation Supervisor Mary Doherty will be retiring this fall.
- The energy project at the library is near completion with improvements to the heating and cooling system and new LED lighting installed. City Hall will be worked on next.
- Fire Safe Crews completed work on Lake Road and in Davey Glen Park.

Questions and Comments

Commissioner Bortoli requested staff let the Public Works Department know additional repairs are needed to the fence on the pathway below Fox School.

Commissioner Michaels noted getting quick results when he used the My Belmont application.

Future Agenda Items

Fire Department – Open Space Urban Management
Water Conservation
Athletic Fields
Trail Connections

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Jonathan Gervais
Parks & Recreation Director